(c) the reasons therefor and the steps taken to fill up such posts urgently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) In November, 2000, the erstwhile Ministry of Surface Transport was bifurcated to create two new Ministries, namely, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and Ministry of Shipping. The process of bifurcation is still on as some of the administrative units are still working as common Units for both the Ministries. As such, no separate post of Hindi Translators/Hindi Officers/Assistants has been so far created in the newly formed Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Conversion of State Highways into NHs in Karnataka

2982. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has recommended conversion of Kumta-Sirsi-Mundgod-Bubli and Londa-Ramnagar-Sadashivgad State Highways into National Highways; and

(b) if so, the action, if any, taken by Government to convert the above Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.